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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/071,604	02/08/2002	William A. White III	SAA-74-1	5361

7590 07/28/2004

SQUARE D COMPANY  
1415 South Roselle Road  
Palatine, IL 60067

EXAMINER

TORRES, JOSEPH D


ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2133

DATE MAILED: 07/28/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/071,604	<b>Applicant(s)</b> WHITE ET AL. 	
	<b>Examiner</b> Joseph D. Torres	<b>Art Unit</b> 2133	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 June 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-44 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-44 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 29-34 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 08 February 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Drawings*

1. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference character(s) mentioned in the description: '10' in line 38, page 5; '10' in line 7, page 6; etc. Corrected drawing sheets are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

The drawings are objected to because the blocks in the block diagram do not have descriptive labels in English and because of handwriting. Applicant is advised to employ the services of a competent patent draftsman outside the Office, as the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office no longer prepares new drawings. Corrected drawing sheets are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate

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prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

### ***Claim Objections***

2. Claims 7 and 15 are objected to because of the following informalities: Claims 7 and 15 recite, "a residual error probability utilizes rate of deterioration (first time derivative of measured error rate)". Since "first time derivative of measured error rate" is included in parenthesis, it does not further limit claims 7 and 15. Appropriate correction is required.

Claims 30-45 have been renumbered consecutively as claims 29-44 since number 29 was skipped.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
  2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
  3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
  4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.
3. Claims 1-3, 5-11, 13-23, 25-31, 33-39 and 41-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mangold; Peter et al. (US 5926232 A, hereafter referred to as Mangold) in view of Wicker (Stephen B. Wicker, "Error Control Systems for Digital Communication and Storage", Prentice-Hall, 1995, pages 240-243 & 396-397).

35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection of claims 1 and 9.

Mangold teaches detecting an error (col. 3, lines 30-36 in Mangold teach that redundant data is used to detect errors in an error correction system); and, executing a corrective action related to transmitting messages, the execution being activated in response to the residual error probability (the Abstract in Mangold teaches that a quality parameter

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is measured and in response to the quality parameter, the corrective action of adding redundancy in response to the quality parameter; Note: claim 7 in Mangold teaches that the quality parameter is residual error rate, i.e., residual error probability).

However Mangold does not explicitly teach the specific use of calculating a raw bit error rate and correlating a residual error probability in response to the detected error rate.

Wicker, in an analogous art, teaches that the residual error probability  $P_{ub}(E)$  is correlated to the detected bit error rate  $P_{db}(E)$  via equations 10-6 and 10-7 on pages 241-242 of Wicker, which can be used for correlating a residual error probability  $P_{ub}(E)$  in response to the detected error rate  $P_{db}(E)$ . Note: equations 10-6 and 10-7 on pages 241-242 of Wicker are equivalent to:  $1 - (1 - p)^n - P_{db}(E) \leq P_{ub}(E) \leq (1/k)[1 - (1 - p)^n] - P_{db}(E)$ , hence residual error probability  $P_{ub}(E)$  can be correlated to the detected error rate  $P_{db}(E)$  and can be determined via equations correlating the residual error probability  $P_{ub}(E)$  to the detected error rate  $P_{db}(E)$ . One of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have been highly motivated to combine the teachings of Mangold and Wicker in order to implement the teachings in the Mangold patent since the Mangold patent requires that the residual error probability be available for use by the adaptive encoder taught in the Mangold patent.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Mangold with the teachings of Wicker by including use of calculating a raw bit error rate and correlating a residual error probability in response to the detected error rate. This modification would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, because one of ordinary skill in the

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art would have recognized that use of calculating a raw bit error rate and correlating a residual error probability in response to the detected error rate would have provided the opportunity to implement the teachings in the Mangold patent since the Mangold patent requires that the residual error probability be available for use by the adaptive encoder taught in the Mangold patent.

35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection of claims 2 and 10.

Equation 15-2 on page 396 of Wicker teach that the residual error rate for accepting packets  $P(E)$  is bound by  $P_{ub}(E)/(1 - P_{db}(E))$ . Note:  $P_e = P_{ub}(E)$  and  $P_r = P_{db}(E)$ .

35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection of claims 3 and 11.

Changing the error correction code change the length in of the message in a fixed block transmission system since more redundant bits translates to less message bits.

35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection of claims 5, 6, 13 and 14.

Mangold and Wicker substantially teaches the claimed invention described in claims 1-4, 9-12 (as rejected above).

However Mangold and Wicker do not explicitly teach the specific use of Maximum Likelihood filtering to determine residual error rates.

The Examiner asserts that Mangold and Wicker teach a means for determining residual error rates, but do not teach specific hardware for determining residual error rates. One of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have been highly



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motivated to create a specific hardware means for implementing the design in the Mangold and Wicker patents.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Mangold and Wicker by including use of Maximum Likelihood filtering to determine residual error rates. This modification would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, because one of ordinary skill in the art would have recognized that use of Maximum Likelihood filtering to determine residual error rates would have provided the opportunity for implementing the design in the Mangold and Wicker patents.

35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection of claims 7 and 15.

The decision to change error correction codes in Mangold is based on changes in residual error rates, hence is substantially based on rate of deterioration of the residual error rates.

35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection of claims 8 and 16.

Mangold and Wicker substantially teaches the claimed invention described in claims 1-3, 5-7, 9-11 and 13-16 (as rejected above).

However Mangold and Wicker do not explicitly teach the specific use of a PID.

The Examiner asserts that using a specific part of a packet to determine residual error rate does not deviate from the scope or the intent of the teachings in Mangold and

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Wicker since Mangold and Wicker encompass error correction for any and all parts of the packet.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Mangold and Wicker by including use of a PID. This modification would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, because one of ordinary skill in the art would have recognized that use of a PID would have provided the opportunity to correct errors in any or all parts of the packet.

35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection of claims 17 and 18.

Mangold teaches detecting an error (col. 3, lines 30-36 in Mangold teach that redundant data is used to detect errors in an error correction system); and, executing a corrective action related to transmitting messages, the execution being activated in response to the residual error probability (the Abstract in Mangold teaches that a quality parameter is measured and in response to the quality parameter, the corrective action of adding redundancy in response to the quality parameter; Note: claim 7 in Mangold teaches that the quality parameter is residual error rate, i.e., residual error probability).

However Mangold does not explicitly teach the specific use of calculating a raw bit error rate and correlating a residual error probability in response to the detected error rate.

Wicker, in an analogous art, teaches that the residual error probability  $P_{ub}(E)$  is correlated to the detected bit error rate  $P_{db}(E)$  via equations 10-6 and 10-7 on pages 241-242 of Wicker, which can be used for correlating a residual error probability  $P_{ub}(E)$

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in response to the detected error rate  $P_{db}(E)$ . Note: equations 10-6 and 10-7 on pages 241-242 of Wicker are equivalent to:  $1 - (1 - p)^n - P_{db}(E) \leq P_{ub}(E) \leq (1/k)[1 - (1 - p)^n] - P_{db}(E)$ , hence residual error probability  $P_{ub}(E)$  can be correlated to the detected error rate  $P_{db}(E)$  and can be determined via equations correlating the residual error probability  $P_{ub}(E)$  to the detected error rate  $P_{db}(E)$ . One of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have been highly motivated to combine the teachings of Mangold and Wicker in order to implement the teachings in the Mangold patent since the Mangold patent requires that the residual error probability be available for use by the adaptive encoder taught in the Mangold patent. Equation 15-2 on page 396 of Wicker teach that the residual error rate for accepting packets  $P(E)$  is bound by  $P_{ub}(E)/(1 - P_{db}(E))$ . Note:  $P_e = P_{ub}(E)$  and  $P_r = P_{db}(E)$ .

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Mangold with the teachings of Wicker by including use of calculating a raw bit error rate and correlating a residual error probability in response to the detected error rate. This modification would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, because one of ordinary skill in the art would have recognized that use of calculating a raw bit error rate and correlating a residual error probability in response to the detected error rate would have provided the opportunity to implement the teachings in the Mangold patent since the Mangold patent requires that the residual error probability be available for use by the adaptive encoder taught in the Mangold patent.

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35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection of claims 19-21, 29 and 37 (Note: claims 29 and 38 substantially comprises all of the claim language in claims 17-20).

Mangold and Wicker substantially teaches the claimed invention described in claims 17 and 18 (as rejected above).

However Mangold and Wicker do not explicitly teach the specific use of specific hardware used to determine residual error rates.

The Examiner asserts that Mangold and Wicker teach a means for determining residual error rates, but do not teach specific hardware for determining residual error rates. One of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have been highly motivated to create a specific hardware means for implementing the design in the Mangold and Wicker patents.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Mangold and Wicker by including use of specific hardware used to determine residual error rates. This modification would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, because one of ordinary skill in the art would have recognized that use of specific hardware used to determine residual error rates would have provided the opportunity for implementing the design in the Mangold and Wicker patents.

35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection of claims 22, 30 and 38.

Equation 15-2 on page 396 of Wicker teach that the residual error rate for accepting packets  $P(E)$  is bound by  $P_{ub}(E)/(1 - P_{db}(E))$ . Note:  $P_e = P_{ub}(E)$  and  $P_r = P_{db}(E)$ .

35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection of claims 23, 31 and 39.

Changing the error correction code change the length in of the message in a fixed block transmission system since more redundant bits translates to less message bits.

35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection of claims 25, 26, 33, 34, 41 and 42.

Mangold and Wicker substantially teaches the claimed invention described in claims 17-23 (as rejected above).

However Mangold and Wicker do not explicitly teach the specific use of Maximum Likelihood filtering to determine residual error rates.

The Examiner asserts that Mangold and Wicker teach a means for determining residual error rates, but do not teach specific hardware for determining residual error rates. One of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would have been highly motivated to create a specific hardware means for implementing the design in the Mangold and Wicker patents.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Mangold and Wicker by including use of Maximum Likelihood filtering to determine residual error rates. This modification would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, because one of ordinary skill in the art would have recognized that use of Maximum Likelihood filtering to determine residual error rates would have provided the opportunity for implementing the design in the Mangold and Wicker patents.

35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection of claims 27, 35 and 43.

The decision to change error correction codes in Mangold is based on changes in residual error rates, hence is substantially based on rate of deterioration of the residual error rates.

35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection of claims 28, 36 and 44.

Mangold and Wicker substantially teaches the claimed invention described in claims 17-23 and 25-27 (as rejected above).

However Mangold and Wicker do not explicitly teach the specific use of a PID.

The Examiner asserts that using a specific part of a packet to determine residual error rate does not deviate from the scope or the intent of the teachings in Mangold and Wicker since Mangold and Wicker encompass error correction for any and all parts of the packet.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Mangold and Wicker by including use of a PID. This modification would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, because one of ordinary skill in the art would have recognized that use of a PID would have provided the opportunity to correct errors in any or all parts of the packet.

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4. Claims 4, 12, 24, 32 and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mangold; Peter et al. (US 5926232 A, hereafter referred to as Mangold) and Wicker (Stephen B. Wicker, "Error Control Systems for Digital Communication and Storage", Prentice-Hall, 1995, pages 240-243 & 396-397) in view of Schroeder; Robert Edward et al. (US 5933111 A, hereafter referred to as Schroeder).

35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection of claims 4, 12, 24, 32 and 40.

Mangold and Wicker substantially teaches the claimed invention described in claims 1-3 (as rejected above).

However Mangold and Wicker do not explicitly teach the specific use of ceasing transmission of the message.

Schroeder, in an analogous art, teaches ceasing transmission whenever an error condition that a corrective action cannot overcome occurs (col. 1, lines 55-58 in Schroeder).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Mangold and Wicker with the teachings of Schroeder by including use of ceasing transmission of the message. This modification would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, because one of ordinary skill in the art would have recognized that use of ceasing transmission of the message would have provided the opportunity to abort transmission whenever an error condition that a corrective action cannot overcome occurs (col. 1, lines 55-58 in Schroeder).

***Conclusion***

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joseph D. Torres whose telephone number is (703) 308-7066. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Albert Decady can be reached on (703) 305-9595. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Joseph D. Torres, PhD  
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